

Promoting Innovation in State & Territorial MCH Policymaking (PRISM) Learning Community

Request for Applications – Cohort II

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) are currently accepting applications for participation in Cohort Two of the PRISM Learning Community. See below for:

1. *Summary of RFA*
2. *Learning Community Background*
3. *Program Elements and Expectations*
4. *Submission Instructions and Application Template*

Summary of RFA

The Promoting Innovation in State & Territorial MCH Policymaking (PRISM) Learning Community provides technical assistance and capacity building over a twelve month period to support and advance policy implementation within states and territories to equitably address substance misuse and addiction and mental health disorders in women, children, and families within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Engagement Timeline

- February 2021: Cohort Two kick-off call
 - Pre-project assessment
- March 2021: Virtual action planning sessions
- April 2021: Virtual policy academy
- May – July 2021: Ongoing technical assistance and virtual programming
- August 2021: Mid-point assessment
- September – December 2021: Ongoing technical assistance and virtual programming
- January 2022: Post-project assessment
 - Key informant interviews

Request for Applications Released: Monday, November 23, 2020

Applications Due: Wednesday, January 27, 2021, by 11:59 pm ET

Selection Announcement: Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Project Period: February 2021 – January 2022

Number of Participants: Up to 8 state/territorial health agency (S/THA) teams (see below in “Project Elements and Expectations” for team composition)

ASTHO Point of Contact: [Sanaa Akbarali](#), Director, Family and Child Health

AMCHP Point of Contact: [Stacy Collins](#), Associate Director, Health Systems Transformation

Learning Community Background

Purpose

The PRISM Learning Community is funded through the Health Resources & Services Administration’s (HRSA) Maternal & Child Health Bureau (MCHB). The purpose of the learning community is to improve public health by building policy-making capacity and providing technical assistance and thought leadership in substance misuse and addiction and mental health, to benefit the maternal and child health population. ASTHO and AMCHP have partnered with four other national health associations whose members help to advance effective policy solutions on substance use and mental health disorders: National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD), National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMD), and the Georgia Health Policy Center.

Through these implementation strategies and a focus on capacity building and technical assistance, the overall goal of the **PRISM** Learning Community is to support states and territories to develop and implement evidence-based, evidence- and experience-informed, or data-driven best practice and policies for substance misuse and addiction in maternal and child health populations.

Program Elements and Expectations

Benefits of Participation

Over the project year, ASTHO and AMCHP will provide the following to assist states and territories in implementing program and policy change that supports and adds to the evidence-base or promotes innovative state/territorial work:

- Virtual programming through a series of learning sessions (*one-hour webinars on emerging topics*)
- Facilitated action planning and goal setting sessions with state/territorial teams prior to implementing key activities to support policy development and/or implementation
- Peer-to-peer connections and networking opportunities
- Sharing and dissemination of federal, national, and state/territorial resources and materials
- Robust technical assistance from ASTHO, AMCHP, federal and national partners, and subject matter experts

Program Commitments:

Jurisdictions participating in the PRISM Learning Community are expected to:

- Assemble a core, inter-agency PRISM team, led by the state MCH director and including representatives from the state health official’s office, as well as Medicaid, behavioral health or local health department staff
- Develop an action-oriented work plan and identify technical assistance needs in support of implementing the plan

- Implement the work plan in partnership with key stakeholders in the state throughout the course of the Learning Community
- Participate in 4 - 5 PRISM virtual learning sessions over the project period
- Participate in the virtual PRISM Policy Academy in the Spring of 2021 (*Dates TBD*)
- Work with ASTHO and AMCHP staff to plan and implement a virtual site visit
- Participate in the PRISM Learning Community process and outcome evaluation efforts, including completing pre- and post-assessments and key informant interviews

Selection Criteria:

- Identified multidisciplinary team, including representation across sectors and agencies
- Interest in peer-to-peer learning and collaboration to improve policy implementation
- Commitment to addressing disparities through a health equity approach
- Interest in gaining or refining knowledge around working with and collaborating with cross-sector partners to strengthen policy implementation

Application Instructions:

To indicate your interest in participating in the Cohort Two of the PRISM Learning Community, please complete the form below. For all questions related to the submission process, please contact [Stacy Collins](#) and [Sanaa Akbarali](#).

Promoting Innovation in State & Territorial MCH Policymaking (PRISM) Learning Community

Cohort Two Application

Application Form

*Please complete the following form and return to [Stacy Collins](#) and [Sanaa Akbarali](#) by **Wednesday, January 6, 2021, by 11:59 pm ET***

State/Territorial Health Agency Name:

Primary Point of Contact:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

Please complete the following box with information for each core team member who will participate in the PRISM Learning Community. Additional stakeholders are welcome to participate in learning community activities.

Teams participating in the PRISM Learning Community should include the following three (3) core team members:

- ✓ Title V/MCH Director
- ✓ Behavioral Health Director (or designee)
- ✓ Medicaid Director (or designee)

Applicants are also encouraged to engage the following individuals in designing and implementing their PRISM projects:

- ✓ State/Territorial Health Official (or designee)
- ✓ Health Equity/Minority Health Director (or designee)
- ✓ County-level Health Official
- ✓ Local-level MCH Director

<i>Participant Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			

4.			
5.			
6.			

Statement of Participation

Please read the statement of participation and provide signature by the Title V Director (or their designee) below.

Commitment to Collaboration – AMCHP/ASTHO PRISM Learning Community

In the spirit of collaboration, ASTHO and AMCHP are committed to working with and supporting PRISM state and territorial teams. In this regard, ASTHO and AMCHP offer to provide the following:

- Virtual programming through a series of virtual learning sessions (*one-hour webinars on emerging topics*)
- Facilitated in-person and/or virtual action planning and goal setting sessions with state/territorial teams
- Peer-to-peer connections and networking opportunities
- Sharing and dissemination of federal, national, and state/territorial resources and materials
- Robust technical assistance from ASTHO, AMCHP, federal and national partners, and subject matter experts

Commitment to Collaboration – PRISM State/Territory Team

In the spirit of collaboration, our team is committed to working with ASTHO, AMCHP, and their partners. In this regard, our state/territorial health agency offers to:

- Identify core PRISM team members
- Develop a work plan and identify related technical assistance needs
- Implement the work plan throughout the year, and provide updates to ASTHO and AMCHP
- Participate in all PRISM virtual learning sessions
- Attend all required virtual PRISM meetings (including site visit[s] and the Policy Academy)
- Participate in process and outcome evaluation efforts

Title V Director (or designee) Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____